

sharing the same racial and ethnic background.

(9) Because of the disparities in the need for organs, minorities are more likely to wait longer to find a successful match and are more likely to be sicker when an organ is found.

(10) An increase in minority organ donations would decrease the waiting time and increase the likelihood of successful transplantations for minorities.

AMENDING THE COMMODITY PROVISIONS OF THE FOOD, CONSERVATION, AND ENERGY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following exchange of letters between the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Ways and Means with regards to H.R. 6849.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, September 27, 2008.

Hon. COLLIN PETERSON,
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN PETERSON: I am writing regarding H.R. 6849, which may be considered on the floor today, and which includes amendments to section 901 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2497(a)). As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction over legislation amending the Trade Act of 1974, and thus, these amendments fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

However, in order to expedite this bill for floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 6849, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Record.

Sincerely,

CHARLES B. RANGEL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, September 27, 2008.

Hon. CHARLES B. RANGEL,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Longworth House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN RANGEL: Thank you for your letter regarding the Committee on Ways and Means' jurisdictional interest in H.R. 6849.

I appreciate your willingness to expedite this legislation for Floor consideration, with the understanding that it does not prejudice your Committee's jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation.

I will submit a copy of your letter and this response as part of the Congressional Record during consideration of the legislation on the House floor. Thank you for your support

of H.R. 6849 and your cooperation as we work towards enactment of this legislation.

Sincerely,

COLLIN C. PETERSON,
Chairman.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF SHIRLEY DEMMER

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 2008

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Shirley Demmer and applaud Bill Demmer's establishment of the Shirley Dudek Demmer Summer Chair of Research at the Brain Aneurysm Foundation.

In 1952, Shirley was born in Detroit, Michigan to a homemaker and a General Motors automotive worker. She grew up in a modest neighborhood with five siblings. Tragically, at age 13, Shirley lost her mother to what was thought to be a stroke, but was later confirmed to be a ruptured brain aneurysm. After the passing of her mother, Shirley had to grow up fast. In 1975, she met her future husband Bill, with whom she would share 30 wonderful years of marriage. In 1978, the Demmers moved to Northville, Michigan, and raised their three children. Shirley was active in her community, involved in philanthropic efforts especially in the area of violence against women. Bill became Chairman of the North American International Auto Show.

At 50, Shirley decided to accomplish one of her life's goals and complete her bachelors degree. In 2007, she graduated with highest honors from Madonna University with a degree in sociology. Soon thereafter, Shirley applied and was accepted into the University of Michigan's Gender Studies graduate program. Unfortunately, she never had a chance to earn her graduate degree. Sadly, Shirley Demmer died in November 2007. Shirley was a person of extreme warmth and caring. She touched the lives of many people in her community, and she is sorely missed.

After her passing, Bill sought to learn everything possible about brain aneurysms. He found the incidence of brain aneurysms are often partly genetic and his mother-in-law had probably died from a ruptured brain aneurysm. Consequently, he ensured their children and Shirley's siblings were screened for brain aneurysms. Thanks to these screenings, Shirley's sister Nancy was found to have a brain aneurysm and underwent a successful craniotomy to save her life. In addition, her husband Bill provided a grant to establish the Shirley Dudek Demmer Chair of Research at the Brain Aneurysm Foundation to promote early detection of brain aneurysms.

Fortunately, today there is a greater awareness of brain aneurysms and the danger they pose to Americans. Through the efforts of people like Bill Demmer and organizations like the Brain Aneurysm Foundation, our nation's leaders have become involved in efforts to promote brain aneurysm awareness. For on September 26, 2008, Representative PATRICK TIBERI (OH) introduced H. Res. 1511, which would express support for designation of the month of September as "National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month".

Madam Speaker, today, as we remember the life of Shirley Demmer, I ask my col-

leagues to join me in mourning her passing and applauding the establishment of the Shirley Dudek Demmer Chair of Research.

IN HONOR OF TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 2008

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in order to celebrate with the Taiwanese on their National Day.

This year, the Taiwanese people demonstrated to the world during their most recent Presidential election with a clear, ringing voice of freedom that they are a democratic people and a beacon of democracy to Asia and the world.

The peaceful transfer of power between Presidents stood as a reminder that Taiwan is an important ally to the United States as they exemplify to that region democracy and rule of the people. Today, as the newly elected President Ma prepares to celebrate with his people, Taiwan's National Day serves as a reminder that all who share the ideals of liberty enjoy the bonds of friendship and peace.

Please join with me in congratulating Taiwan, both our friend and ally, and on their National Day.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE BUD CRAMER

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 2008

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fellow Blue Dog, a gracious friend, and a great American.

Since 1991, this gentleman has served his home state of Alabama as an outstanding Member of Congress, and before that served our country as a member of the United States Army and Army Reserve.

He has been a champion of child protection—reflecting his roots as founder of the National Children's Advocacy Centre—and a true promoter of our space program. He is a long-time supporter of national defense measures, and a tireless advocate of fiscal responsibility.

ROBERT EDWARD CRAMER, Jr.—our friend Bud—has plenty of folks both home in Huntsville and here in Washington, DC who admire and appreciate him, but I ask you to join me again today in congratulating him on a job well done and a journey well traveled.

CELEBRATING FILIPINO AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 2008

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about a resolution that I have just introduced along with Congressmen HONDA, ISSA, and BOBBY SCOTT, my colleagues on the